
NEWS From:

US Rep. Mike Honda

15th District – California



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Contact: Jay Staunton: 202.225.3327
jay.staunton@mail.house.gov

Honda Sponsors New GI Bill of Rights for the 21st Century *Honors American Troops, Veterans, Families*

Washington, DC – U.S. Rep. Mike Honda (D-San José) today sponsored H.R. 2131, the new GI Bill of Rights for the 21st Century developed by House Democrats to ensure proper benefits for the men and women who serve in the U.S. armed forces.

“Now is the right time to support our troops, because no other group of Americans has stood stronger and braver for our democracy than our troops and veterans,” Congressman Honda said. “We must honor and remember these courageous men and women through this new GI Bill, as we have done after each major military conflict in the past.”

The new GI Bill of Rights for the 21st Century will improve benefits for the men and women serving in uniform today, and provide long-overdue benefits for the veterans and military retirees who have already served. It improves support for troops and their families, and includes special provisions for the National Guard and Reserve in recognition of their service in Iraq and Afghanistan. The bill provides veterans with better education, health care, and job training benefits.

The package will improve veterans’ health care to meet the needs of troops returning home by increasing resources, bolstering mental health care for returning soldiers, and blocking increases in prescription drug copayments and enrollment fees for veterans.

“For our troops, this package updates and enhances the GI Bill – providing the full cost for college or job training for those serving four years of active duty,” Honda said. “These provisions are critical to helping our returning soldiers join a prosperous economy, and also provide a recruiting tool to encourage new soldiers to sign up.”

For military retirees and the families of those who were killed in the line of duty, the New GI Bill of Rights will fully repeal the Disabled Veterans Tax, and end the Military Families Tax.

The new GI Bill of Rights for the 21st Century received the endorsements of several veterans’ and military organizations, including the American Legion, which was instrumental in the passage of the original GI Bill of Rights after World War II.

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